

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please enter the 18 sheets of replacement drawings that are attached to this Amendment.

REMARKS

The Office Action of March 8, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully considered. The Examiner's efforts to improve this application by ferreting out informalities has been noted with appreciation.

Revisions to the Application

Turning first to the drawing objections, on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action, the present Amendment forwards 18 sheets of replacement drawings to make the improvements suggested in the Office Action. The replacement drawings also delete most of the reference numbers that are identified on page 4 of the Office Action as being present in the drawings but not the specification. In order to show exactly what changes have been included in the attached replacement drawings, copies of the original figures are attached with the changes marked in red ink. These drawing sheets are labeled "Annotated Marked-up drawings."

The present Amendment also forwards a substitute specification that has been prepared in view of the objections on pages 5-10 of the Office Action. The substitute specification additionally supplies a new title, as required on page 3 of the Office Action, and deletes "said" from the Abstract, as required on page 10 of the Office Action. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.125, the undersigned attorney states that he believes that the attached substitute specification contains no new matter. A copy of the original specification, marked up to show changes that have been included in the substitute specification, is among the attachments to this Amendment. The Examiner is urged to review the marked-up copy to confirm for himself that new matter has not been added.

The present Amendment revises the claims in response to the objections on pages 10 and 11 of the Office Action.

On page 13, the Office Action objects to claims 2-10 and 13-20. The present Amendment places these claims in independent form. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that they are now in condition for allowance.

Finally, the present Amendment also revises independent claims 1 and 12 in order to further distinguish the Hori et al reference (which will hereafter be called simply “Hori.”) In addition, the Amendment adds new dependent claims 23-26 to further protect the invention. New claim 24, it is noted, is supported by the passage at page 17 of the application as-filed, lines 20-22.

Brief Synopsis of the Disclosure

The present application discloses several embodiments of an improved electrostatic printing apparatus. With reference to Figure 6A of the application’s drawings, an LED 4d in a density sensor 104 shines light on a reference or calibration sheet 117, which reflect the light back to the density sensor 104. The current flowing through the LED 4d is changed so as to detect sensor output corresponding to different current values. When covering section 117 is at a closed position (see Figure 4), an adjustment section adjusts the output of the density sensor 104 with respect to a surface of the covering section 117.

The Rejections on the Prior Art

On pages 11 and 12, the Office Action rejects independent claims 1 and 12 (along with two dependent claims), for anticipation by the Hori reference. However, it is

respectfully submitted that the current formulations of claims 1 and 12 are patentable over this reference for the reasons discussed below.

The paragraph at column 12 of Hori, lines 9-20, explains that a reference original 40 is placed between a reflection type photosensor 20 and a photoconductor drum. The output of the photosensor 20 represents the image density of the reference original 40, and is stored in an output calibration table. However, it should be noted that a light emitting element in the photosensor 20 emits light having only one fixed value of intensity to the reference original 40. The output levels of Hori's photosensor 20 are not measured for different values of current flowing through the light emitting elements.

Independent claim 1 recites a reading section, a covering section, and a drive mechanism that moves the covering section to either an opening position or a closing position. Claim 1 also recites "an adjustment section that adjusts said reading section when said covering section is at the closing position, said reading section being adjusted in such a way that an output of said reading section changes." It is respectfully submitted that Hori neither discloses nor suggests a reading section that is adjusted in such a way that its output changes.

Independent claim 12 recites "an adjustment section that adjusts said reading section when said covering section is at the opening position, said reading section being adjusted with reference to a surface of said toner image bearing body on which a toner image is not formed." In contrast, the two paragraphs in the middle of Hori's column 11 (that is, from line 18 to line 44) explain that a copy operation is performed to detect a density of a toner image formed on a photoconductive drum. The density of the toner image and a sensor output corresponding to the density are then stored in a table. It is

respectfully submitted that Hori neither discloses nor suggests adjusting a reading section with reference to a surface on which a toner image is not formed.

Since claim 11 depends from claim 1 and claim 21 depends from claim 12, and since both of these dependent claims recite additional limitation to further define the invention of their independent claims, they are patentable along with their independent claims and need not be further discussed. Similarly, new dependent claims 23-26 are patentable along with claims 1 and 12.

On pages 12 and 13, the Office Action rejects independent claim 22 for anticipation by Takahashi. This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of the rejected claim.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

It is noted that the application has been amended to include 25 claims, with 6 of them being independent. Since the fee for 22 claims, 3 of them being independent, has already been paid, an additional claim fee of \$750 is being submitted concurrently.

Should this remittance be accidentally missing or insufficient, though, any fees that may be needed can be charged to our Deposit Account number 18-0002.

Respectfully submitted,



Allen Wood

Registration No. 28,134

Customer No. 23995

(202) 326-0222

(202) 408-0924 (facsimile)

(202) 408-5297 (facsimile)

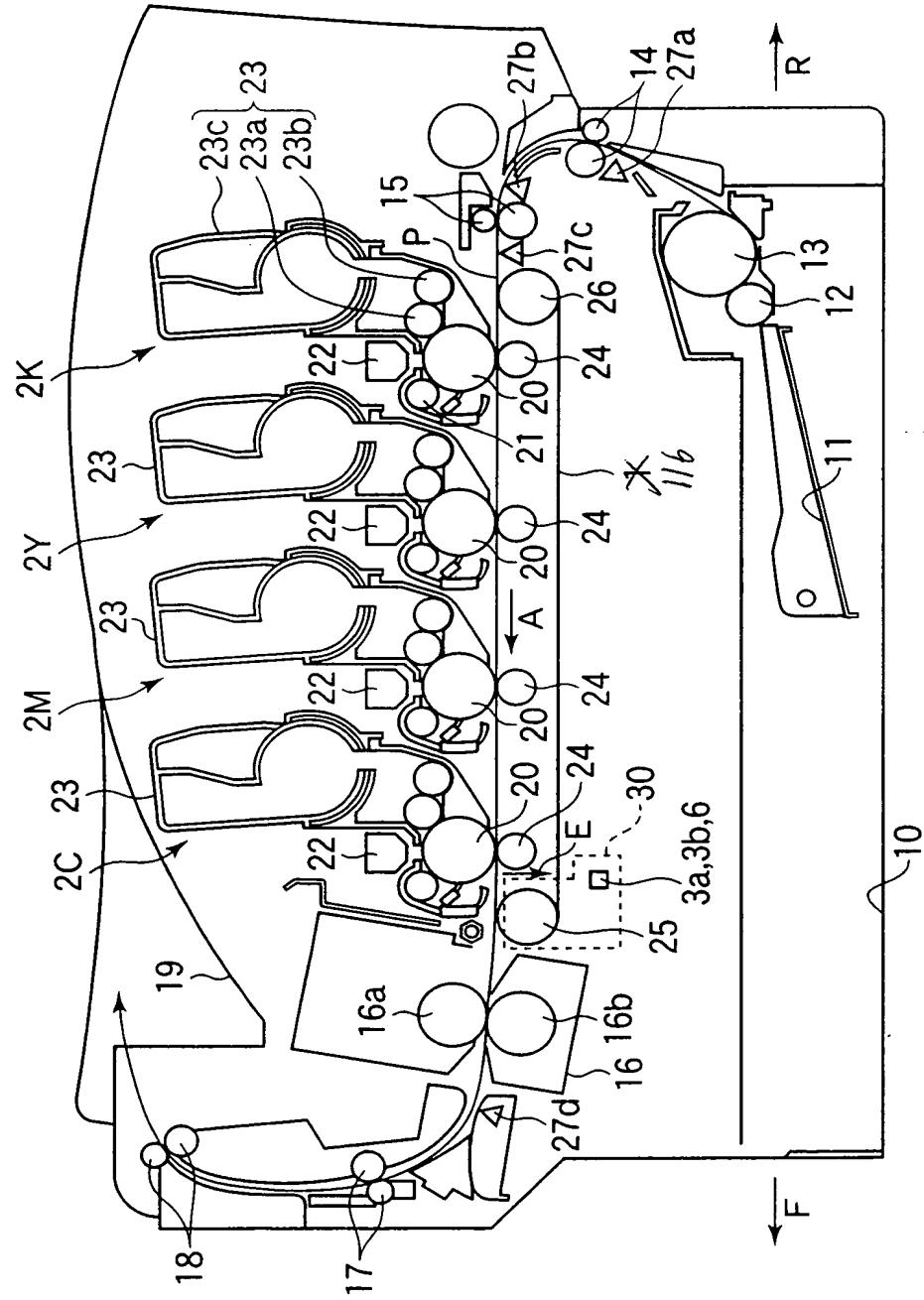
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Annotated Marked-up drawings

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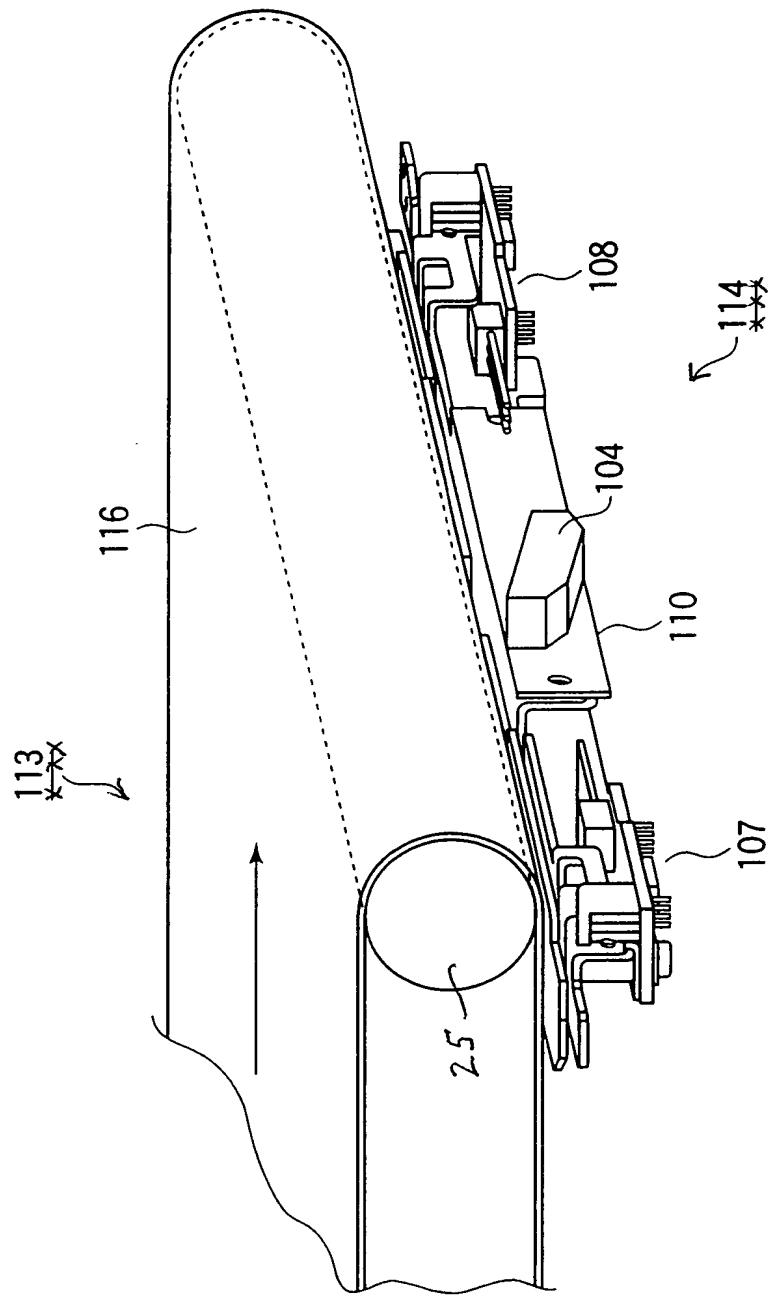
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Annotated Marked-up drawings

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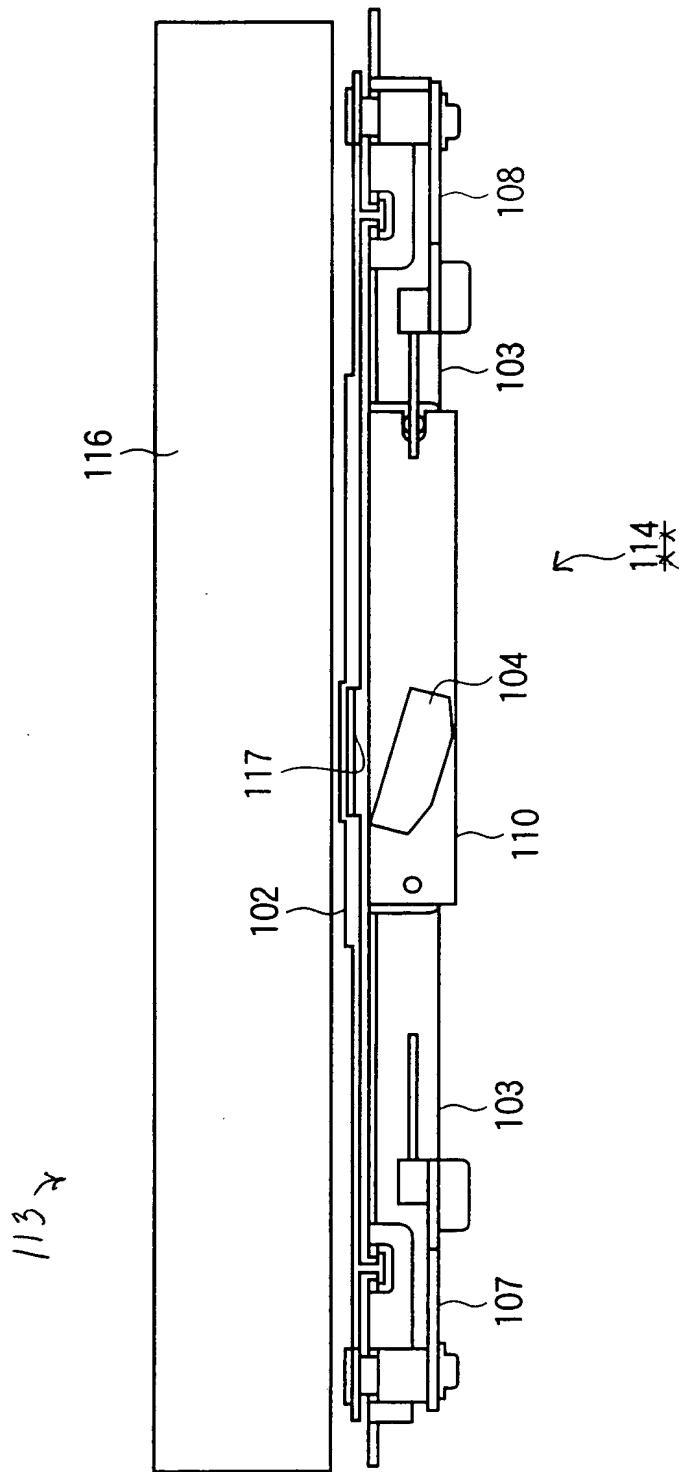
FIG.2



Annotated Marked-up drawings

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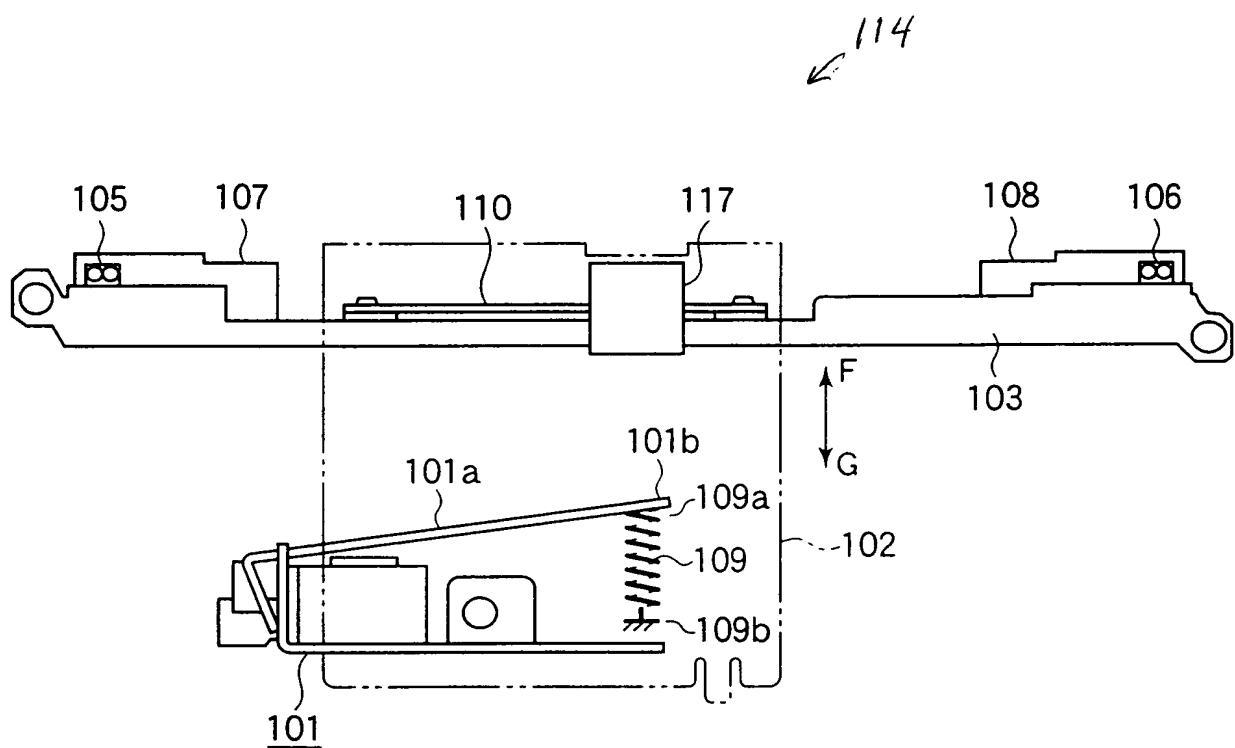
FIG.3



Annotated Marked-up drawings

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FIG.4

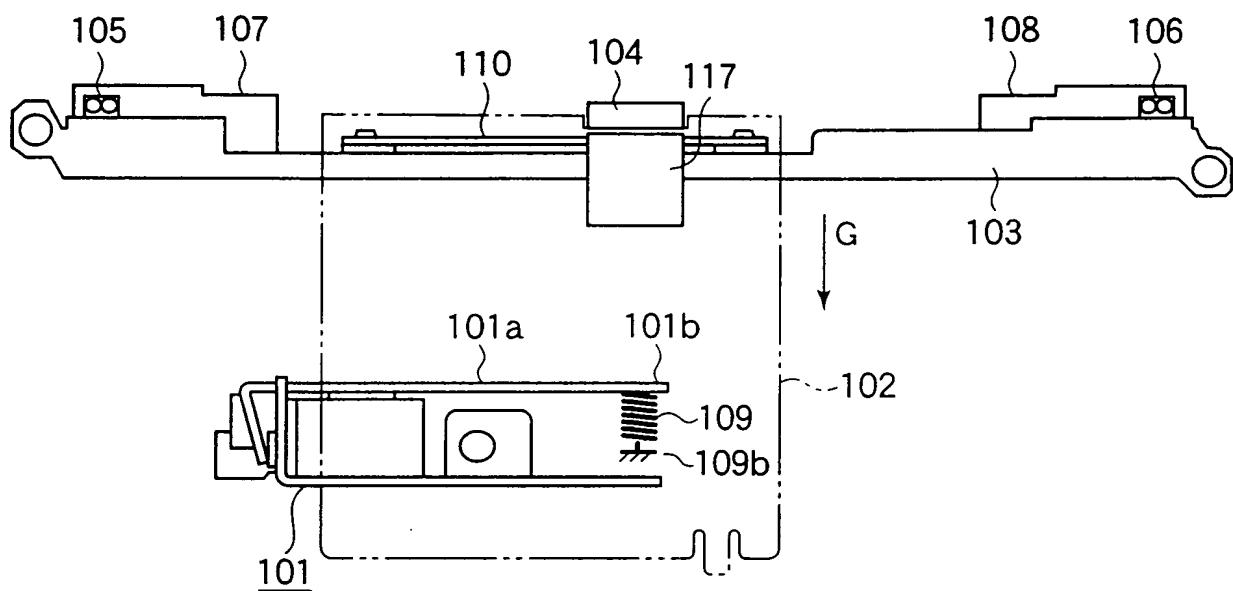


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FIG.5

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FIG.6A

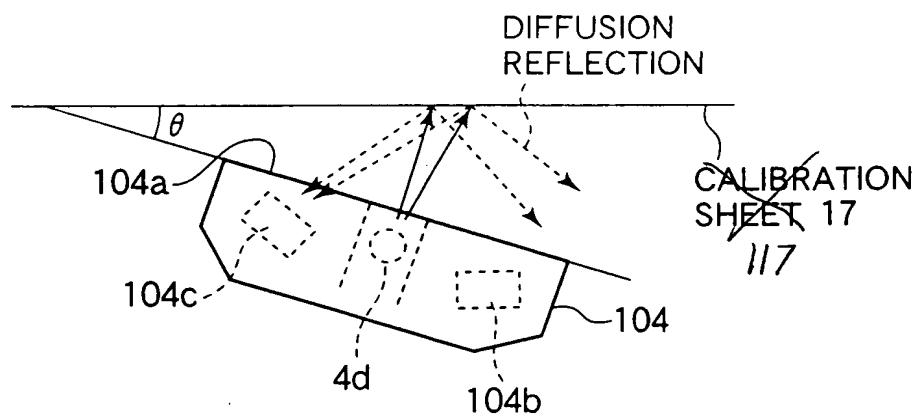
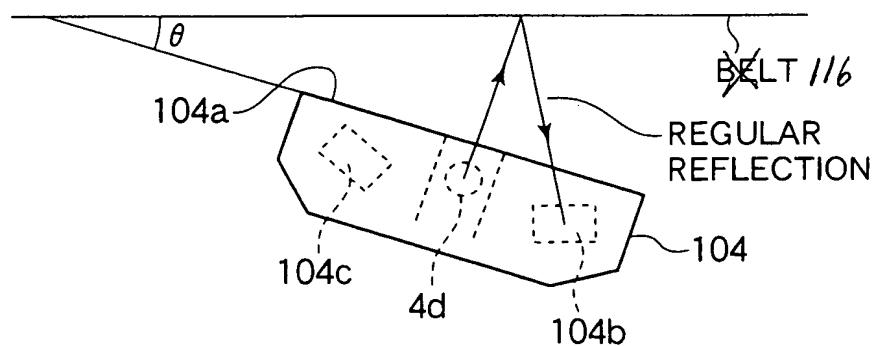


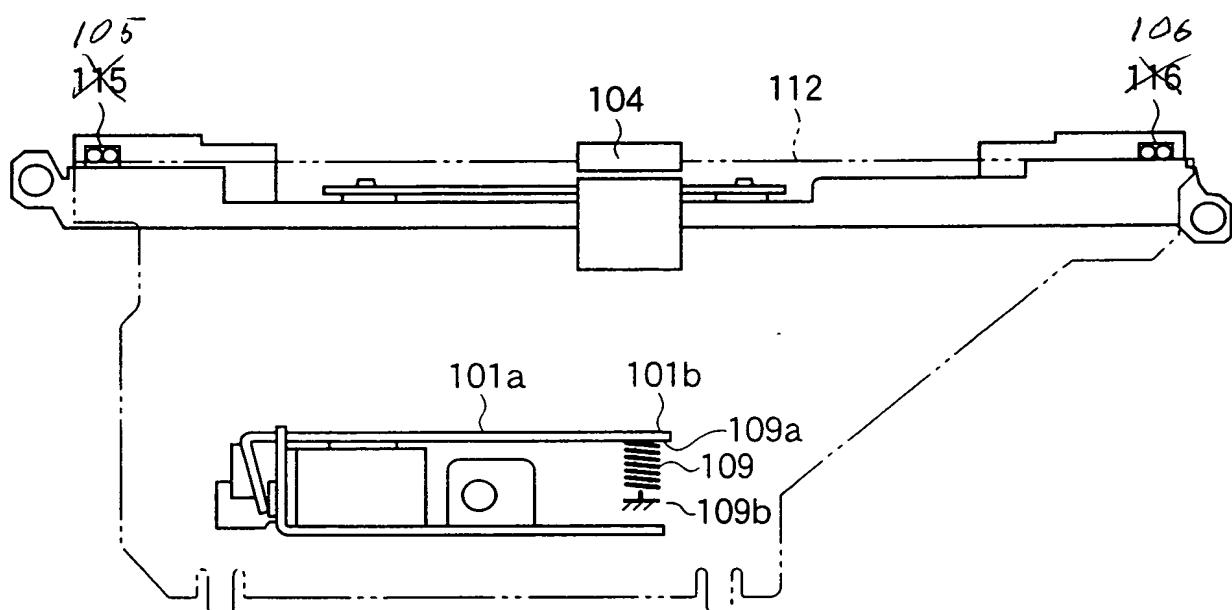
FIG.6B



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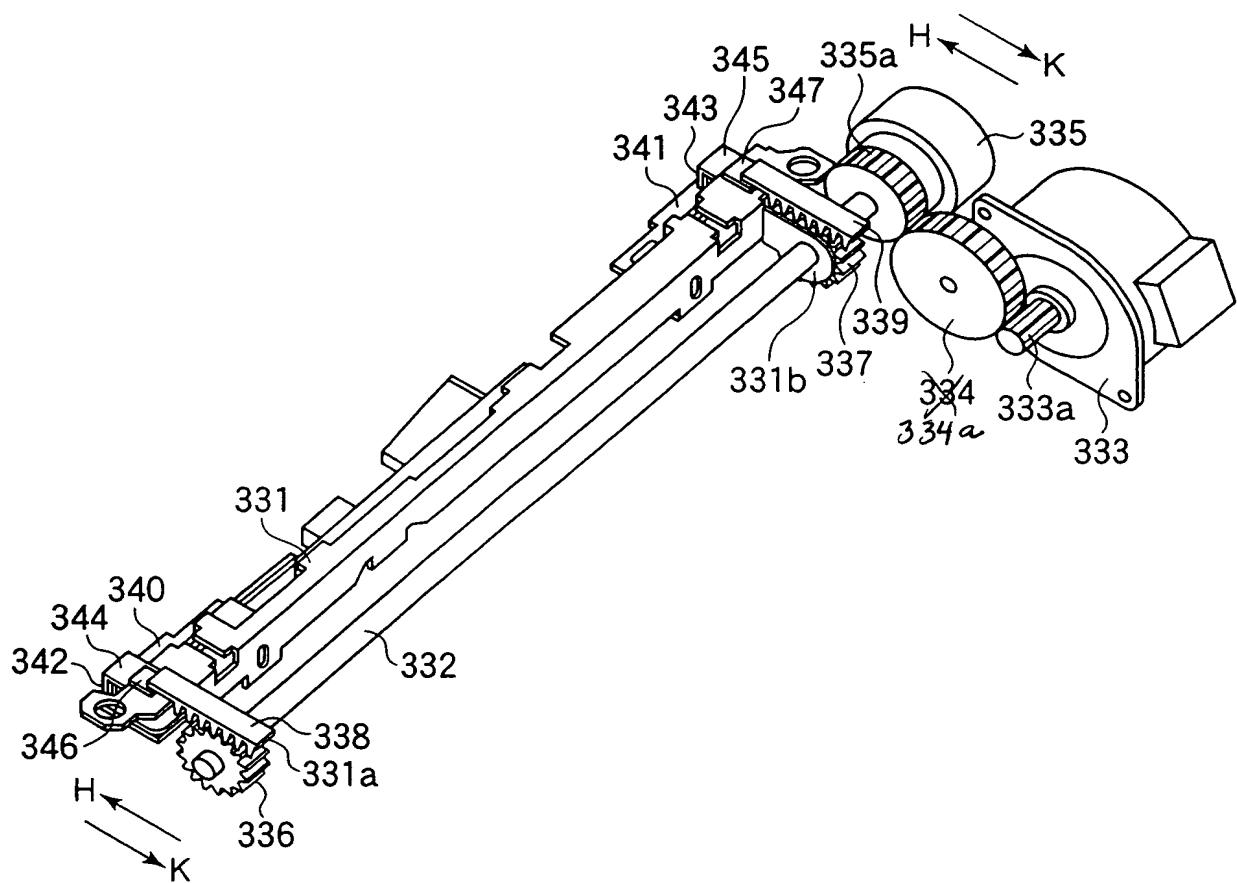
FIG.16



Annotated Marked-up drawings

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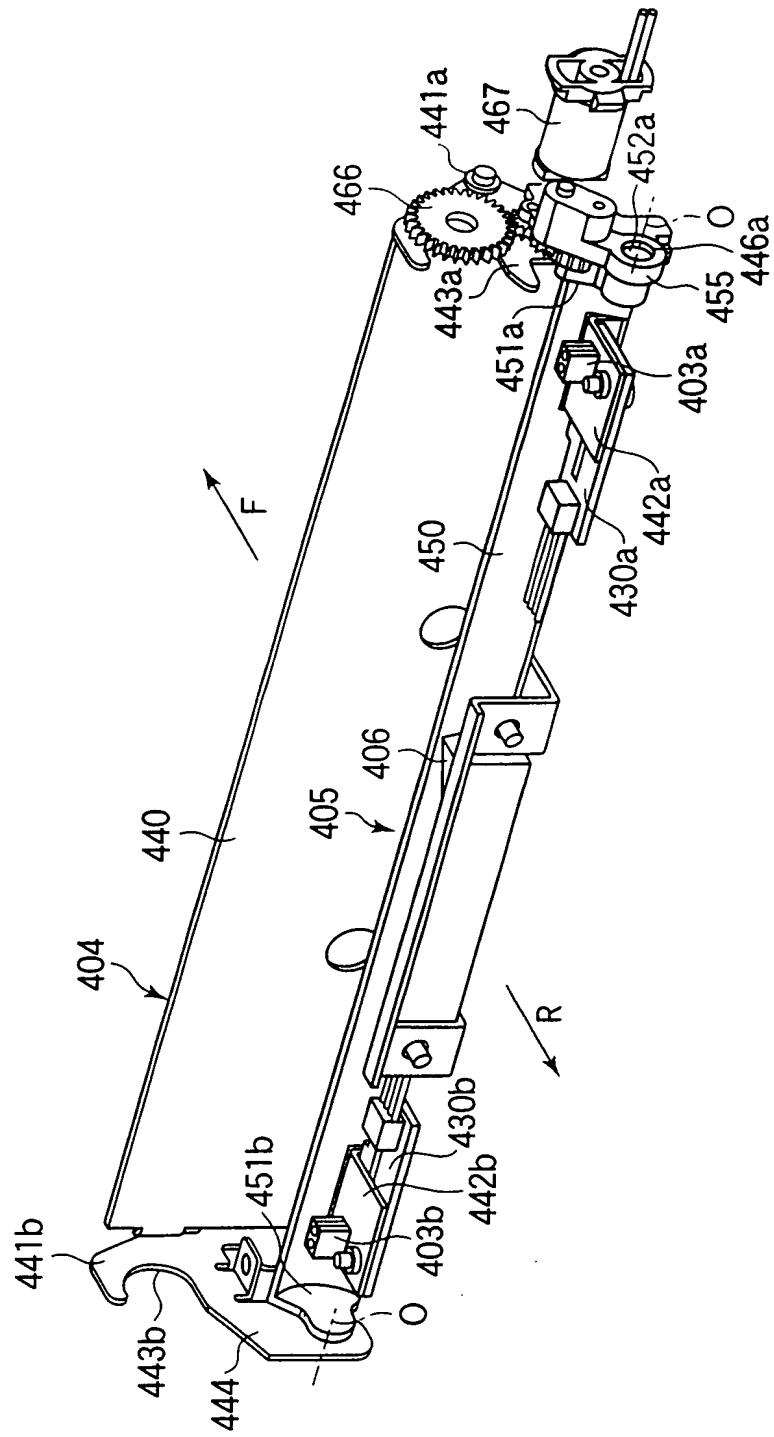
FIG.19



Annotated Marked-up drawings

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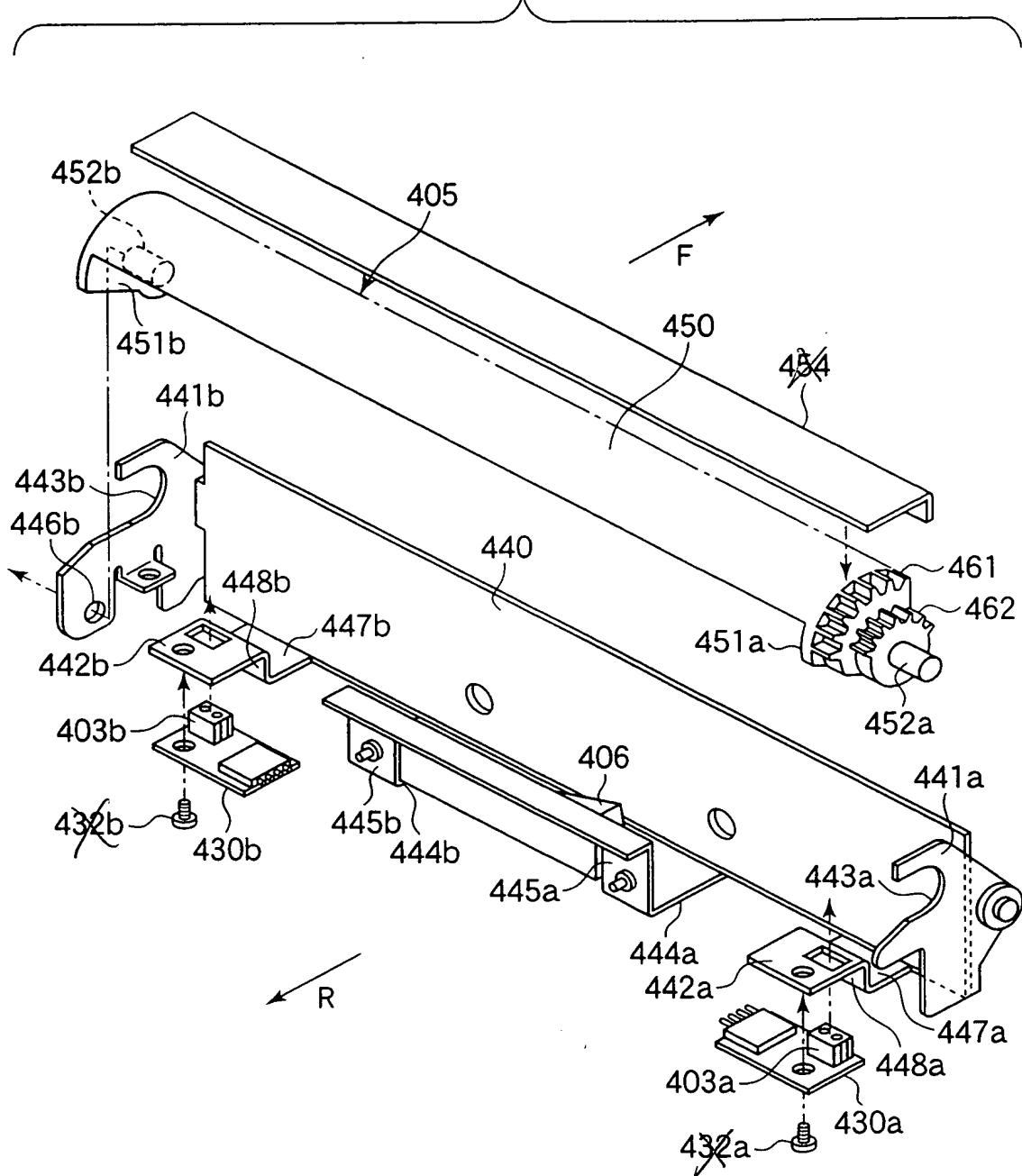
FIG.20



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FIG.21



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FIG.22A

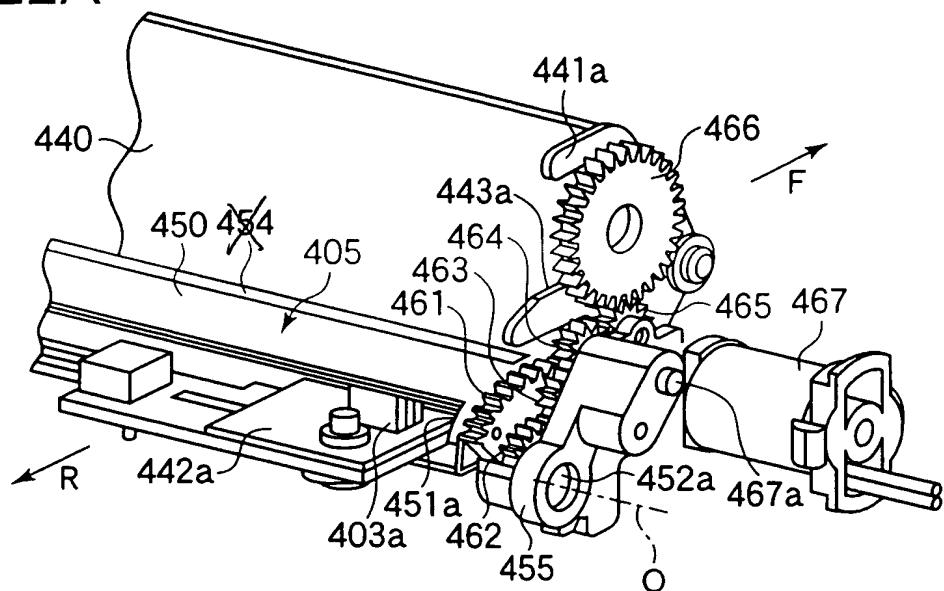


FIG.22B

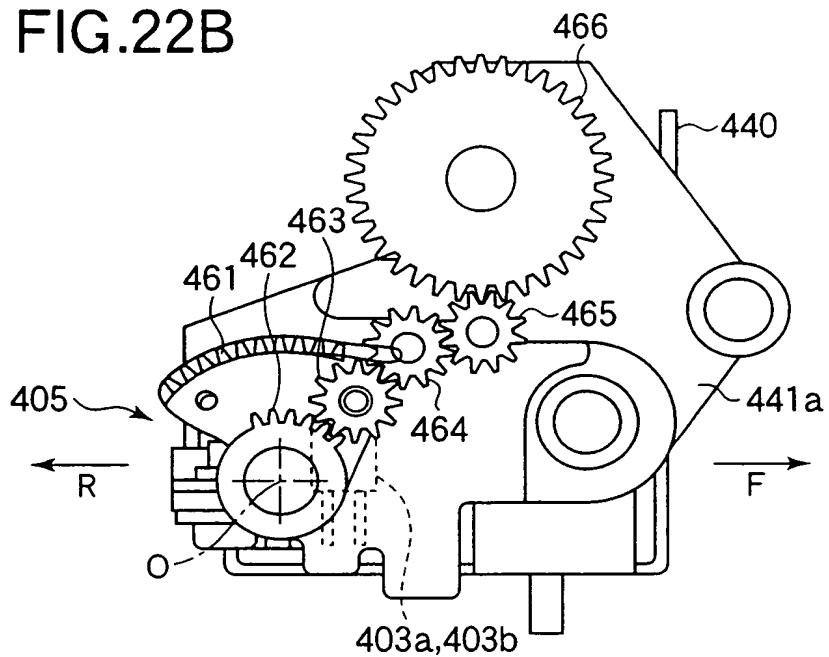
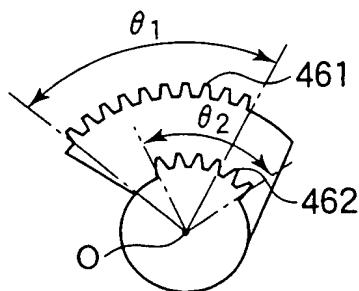


FIG.22C



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FIG.23A

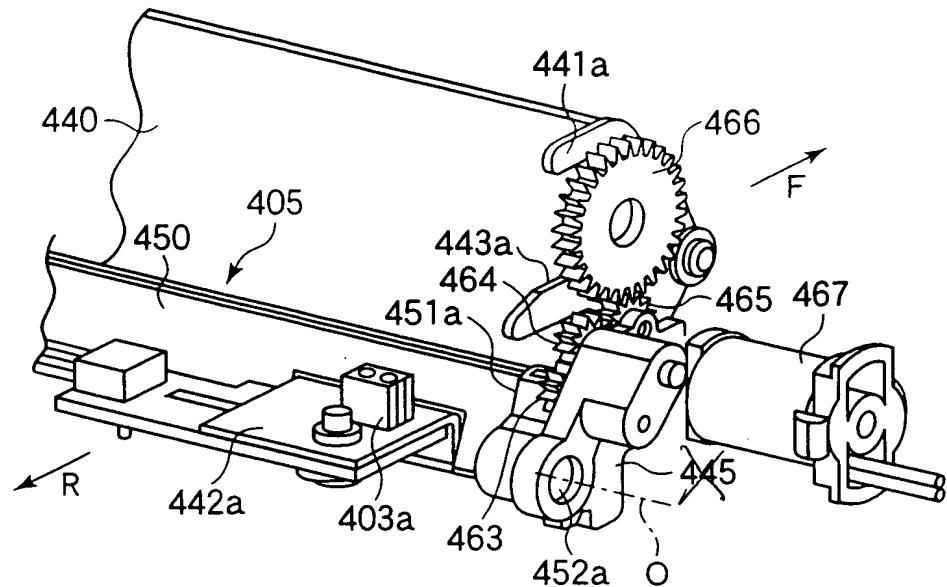
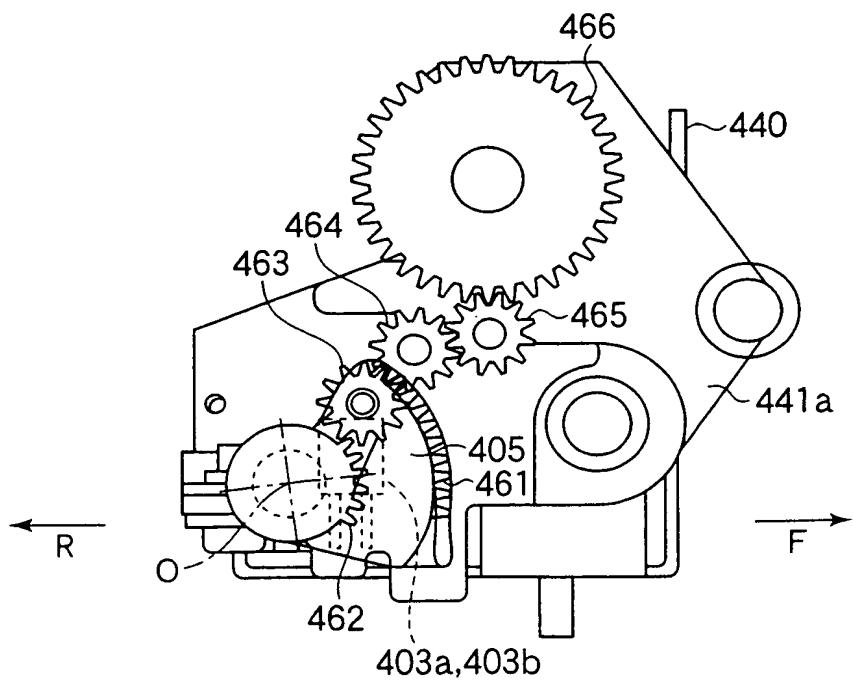


FIG.23B



Annotated Marked-up drawings

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FIG.24A

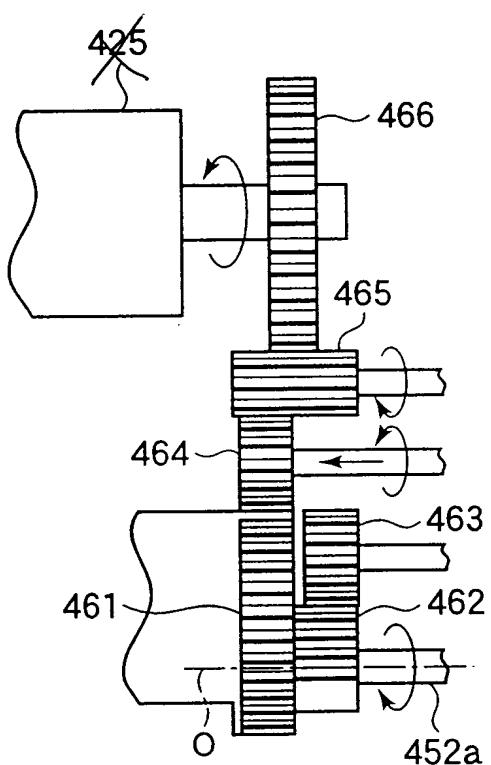
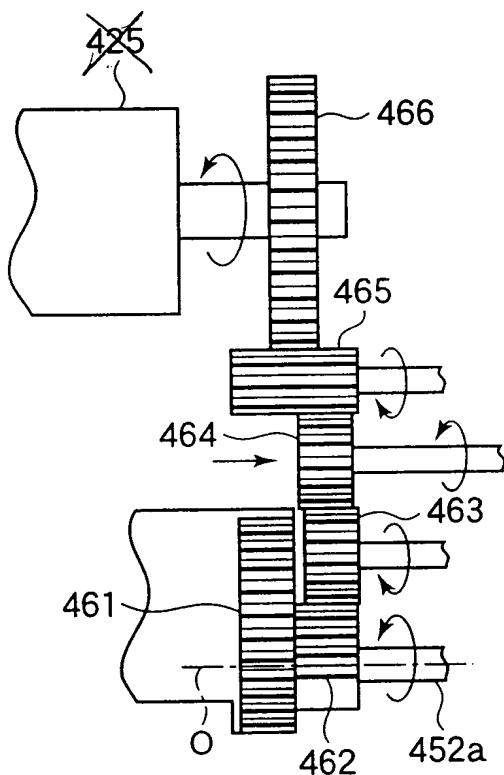


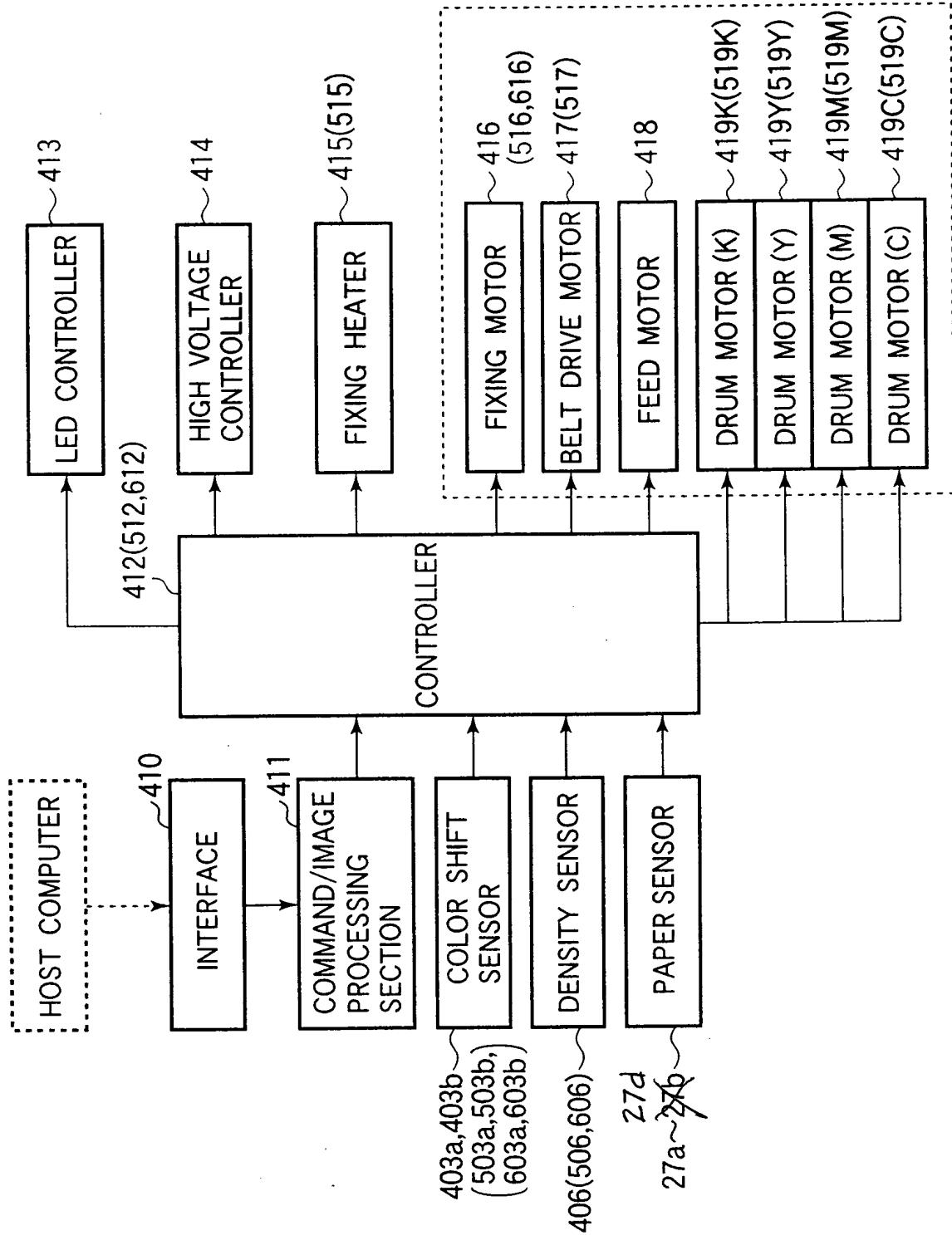
FIG.24B



Annotated Marked-up drawings

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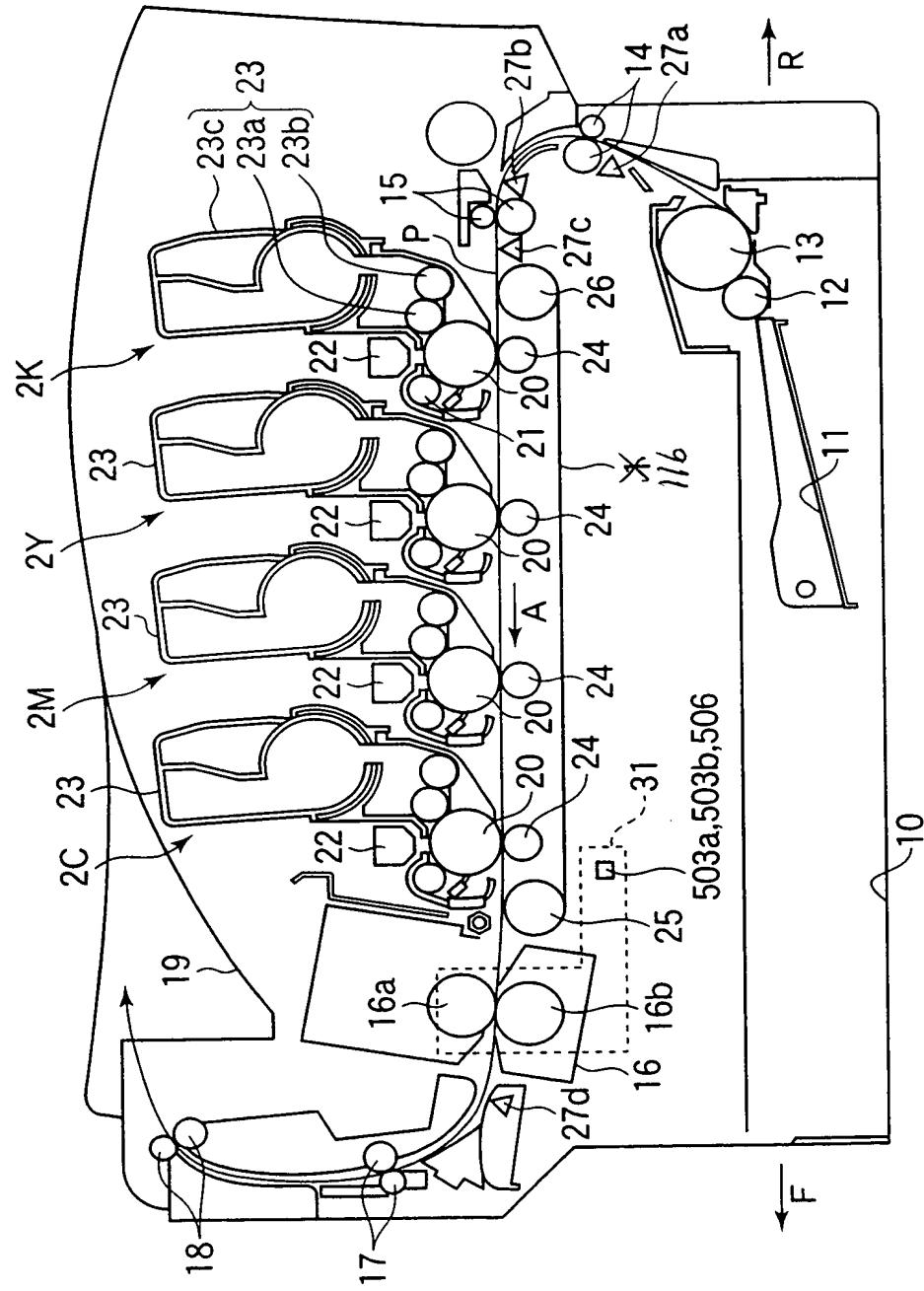
FIG.25



Annotated Marked-up drawings

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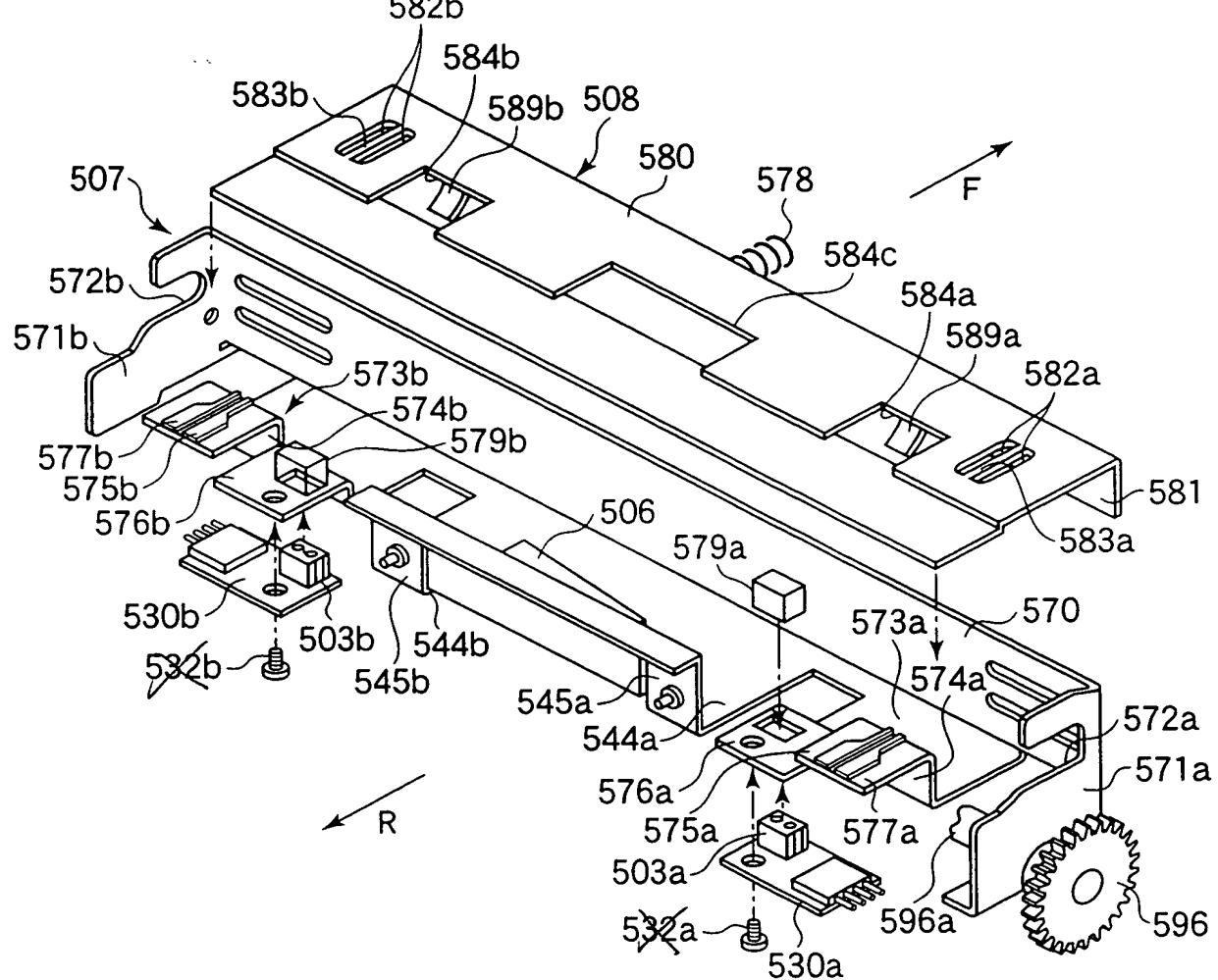
FIG.26



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FIG.28



Annotated Marked-up drawings

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FIG.30A

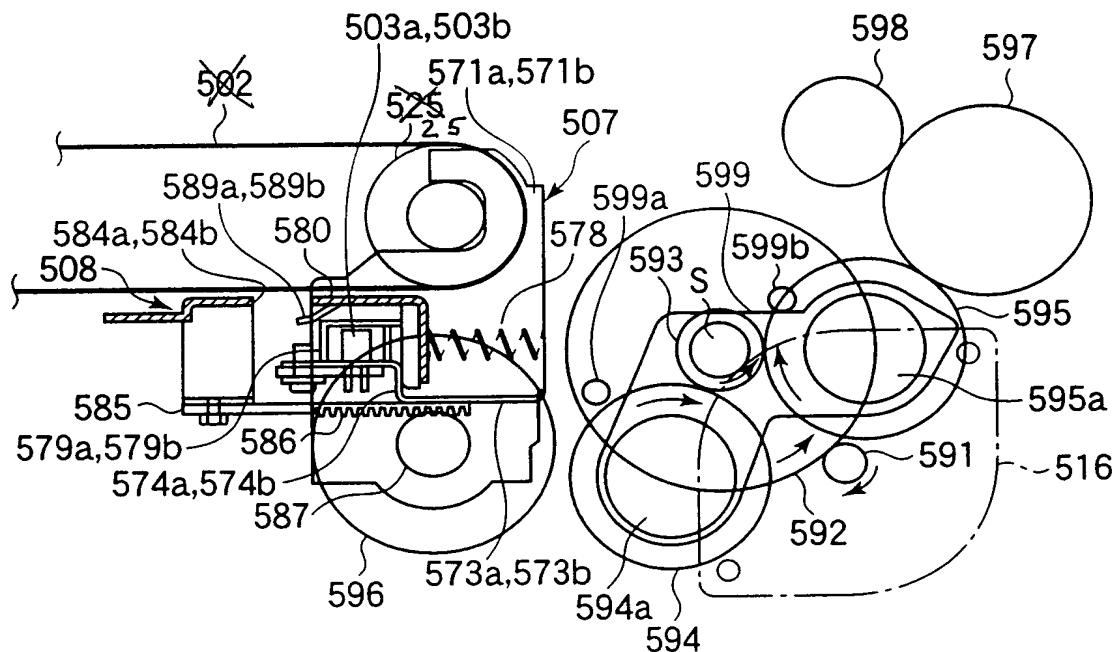
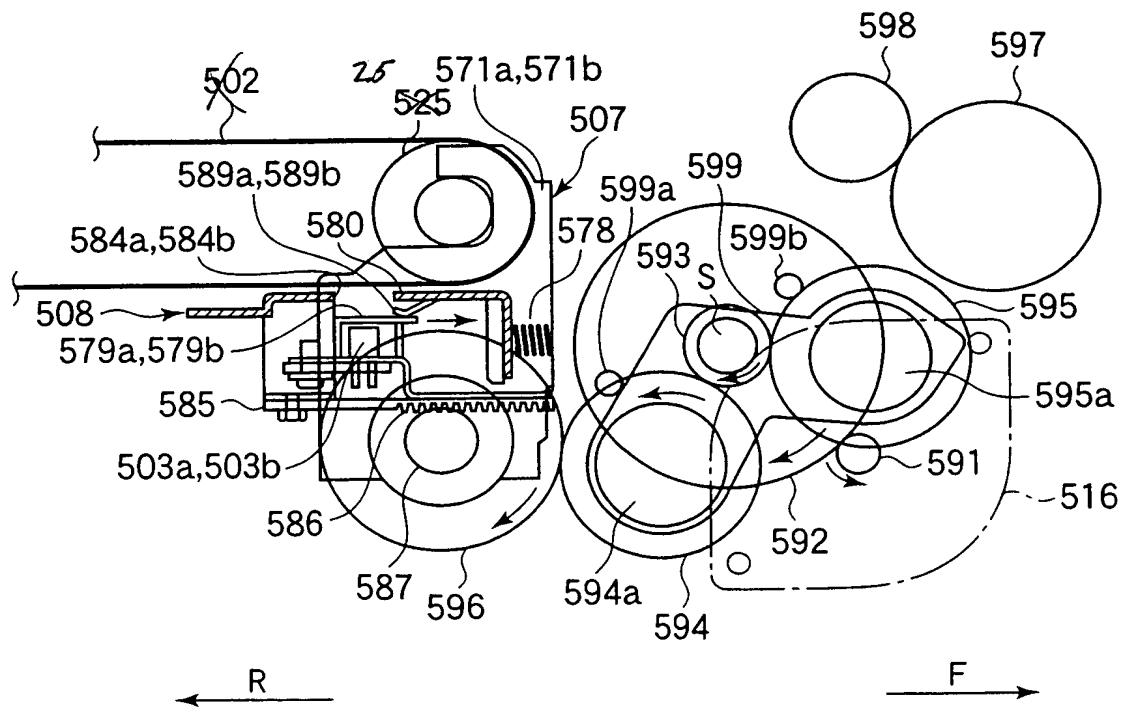


FIG.30B



Annotated Marked-up drawings

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FIG. 31

